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TO THE COCHIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

COCHIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS.

(OFFICIAL REPORT OF THE FIRST BUDGET SESSION OF THE FOURTH COCHIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL).

Vol. I— 1110.

COCHIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Wednesday,

7th August, 1935.
22nd Karkidagam, 1110.

The Council met in the Council Hall, Ernakulam, at Eleven of the Clock with Sir Shanmukham Chetty, K. C. I. E., in the Chair.

Messrs. K. Ashtamoorthi Nambudiripad, K. T. Mathew, P. Sankunni Menon and C. S. Viswanatha Ayyar were absent.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Jew Town Lower Secondary Girls' School.

231. Mr. M. V. Cherian:— Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) are the Government aware that the Jew Town Lower Secondary Girls' School consist of three separate buildings;

(b) is it a fact that the Government is going to take on lease another building for further accommodation;

(c) was there any proposal at any time to acquire a separate plot to locate the above school after raising it to a High School;

(d) if so, whether the Government has given up that idea; and if so, for what reasons;

(e) whether the Government is aware that there is no High School for girls in Mattancherior its suburbs;

(f) if there is no such High School, will the Government be pleased to take steps to provide one in the near future?

Mr. I. N. Menon:— (a) Yes.

(b) Yes; there is such an idea.

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(c) There was a proposal regarding acquisition and construction of a building for the Lower Secondary Girls' School; but there was no definite idea then of raising it to a High School.

(d) Not altogether given up; but the matter is delayed for want of funds.

(e) Yes.

(f) The proposal is there; it is doubtful if it will be possible to give effect to it in the near future for financial reasons.

Mr. M. V. Cherian:—Are the Government aware that the existing buildings are damp and they are not sufficiently ventilated?

Mr. I. N. Menon:—They are aware of this.

Mr. M. V. Cherian:—Are the Government aware that the proposed new building is without ventilation and is equally damp?

Mr. I. N. Menon:—They are not aware. As a matter of fact they were given to understand that the proposed building is the best one available.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim:—With reference to sub-division (d) will the Government give the total number of times they have pleaded want of funds in this session?

Mr. President:—That does not arise.

Mr. Shabdai S. Koder:—Is the Hon'ble Member for Education aware of the fact that some of the primary classes are held from 8 to 12 in the morning for want of accommodation?

Mr. I. N. Menon:—Yes. That is the reason why we are going to take up an additional building, and then this inconvenience will be obviated.

Mr. Popatlal Goverdhan Lalan:—With reference to (c) may I know what the additional cost will be and what funds will be required for putting up a new school?

Mr. I. N. Menon:—We have no exact idea as to what the cost of the additional building would come to and also the cost of the land acquisition.

Mr. Popatlal Goverdhan Lalan:— Have the Government prepared any estimate for this?

Mr. I. N. Menon:—No.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim:—Are not the Government in a position to say that they have mentioned this excuse many a time during this session?

Mr. I. N. Menon:—There is no question of excuse here. We have said that want of funds is the principal difficulty in the way of putting up buildings in Mattancherri.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim:—Can any Government worth the name advance want of funds as a plea for putting off useful works?

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Mr. President:—That is a matter of opinion.

Mr. M. V. Cherian:—How can the Government say without at least preparing an estimate of the expenditure that they are in want of funds?

Mr. I. N. Menon:—I only said roughly. An estimate is being prepared. It will come to about Rs. 45,000.

Mr. M. V. Cherian:—Will the Government be pleased to make provision for this at least next year?

Mr. I. N. Menon:—They have been trying to improve this school every year and provide the necessary funds in the budget. As regards the T. D. High School it is also equally urgent. On a proper disposition of the funds at the disposal of the P. W. D. it is not possible to include such an enormous sum.

Mr. Popatlal Goverdhan Lalan:—May I know for how many years the Government have been trying to provide this item in the budget?

Mr. I. N. Menon:—I am aware that for the last five years they have been trying to do it.

Mr. M. V. Cherian:—Are the Government aware that the lady students of Mattancherri find it impossible to cross the backwater and go to Ernakulam? Practically there is no High School at all in Mattancherri for all castes and creeds.

Mr. I. N. Menon:—That question was answered more than half a dozen times and the Government said that they were aware of the difficulties and hardships caused and that they would try to do their best as expeditiously as possible.

Mr. Popatlal Goverdhan Lalan:—Is the Government unable to provide such a simple amount?

Mr. I. N. Menon:—The amount is not simple. It is an enormous sum

Mr. Popatlal Goverdhan Lalan:— Government have been spending for a good many item which are not as beneficial to the public as this.

Mr. I. N. Menon:—That estimate of value is a matter of opinion.

Mr. M. V. Cherian:—Is the Government aware that IV Form was once opened there?

Mr. I. N. Menon:—I want notice. There is one High School there. The T. D. High School, but unfortunately it is not open to all castes and creeds.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon:—Had not the Government an idea of starting the double system there i. e. certain classes being held in the morning and certain classes in the afternoon?

Mr. I. N. Menon:—This system is being resorted to as the only

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possible thing when the rush is great. That is not a satisfactory way of meeting the situation.

Mr. M. V. Cherian:—Are the Government aware that there is no play-ground there?

Mr. I. N. Menon:—That goes without saying. How can there be a play-ground when there is not even sufficient space for the building.

Mr. T. S. Balarama Ayyar:—Can the Government give us some idea as to the number of girls belonging to Mattancherri that are attending the schools at Ernakulam?

Mr. I. N. Menon:—Sir, I can only answer that question with due notice.

Malayalam Text Book Committee.

232. Mr. P. Raman Menon:— Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) how a gentleman from Trivandrum and another from Madras happened to be made members of the existing Text Book Committee for Malayalam in the State;

(b) what travelling allowance is given to each of them on every occasion they attend the Text Book Committee meeting?

Mr. I. N. Menon:— (a) According to Article 106, Cochin Education Code, Volume I, there should be a member of the Oriental Department of the Madras University in the Text Book Committee. There is, therefore, a member from Madras on the Committee but none from Trivandrum.

(b) A travelling allowance of Rs. 68—13—0 is given to the member on each occasion when he attends the meeting from Madras.

Mr. P. Raman Menon:—Is not Mr. Parameswara Ayyar a member of this Committee?

Mr. I. N. Menon:—No, he is not a member of that Committee.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim:—May I know, Sir, what is the work of this Oriental Department?

Mr. I. N. Menon:—They are dealing with Malayalam literature such as translation, compilation &c.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim:—With reference to (b) does not this gentleman usually attend all the meetings?

Mr. I. N. Menon:—There have been occasions when he does not attend.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim:—Which is the majority, the number of meetings attended or the number not attended?

Mr. I. N. Menon:—I want notice.

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